

REMARKS

In paragraph 1 of the Action, it was noted that a certified copy of Japanese Patent Application number 11-282309 has not been filed.

In reply thereto, applicant respectfully submits that the certified copy was filed with the Japanese Patent Office when the international application was filed.

In paragraph 2 of the Action, the drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a).

In reply thereto, applicant hereby submits a proposed drawing correction as indicated in red.

In paragraphs 3-4 of the Action, claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

In reply thereto, applicant has rewritten claim 16 as claim 21 to change "a detent member" to --a turn stop member-- with reference number 540. Support is found in the specification, on page 17, lines 28 to page 18, line 2.

In paragraphs 5-6 of the Action, claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Takagi.

In reply thereto, applicant has canceled claims 16-20 and added claims 21-27 to define applicant's invention more clearly over the prior art of record.

As clearly defined in claims 21-27, applicant's invention comprises a motor casing (5) composed of first, second, and third metal casing members (510, 520, and 530), wherein the first and third casing members forms an outer shell of the motor casing, and the second casing member is disposed inside the outer shell. Also, applicant's invention comprises the turn stop member (540) provided

between the first and second casing members to prevent a displacement therebetween. In addition, applicant's invention comprises the seating faces (511 and 531) having irregular surfaces provided at the edges of the first and third casing members such that the irregular surfaces are exactly brought into contact with each other.

Since the second casing member is disposed in the outer shell formed by the first and third casing members, the airtightness in the space formed by the first and second casing members is obtained relatively easily (specification, page 20, lines 18-27).

Also, since the turn stop member is provided between the first and second casing members to prevent the displacement therebetween, the armature and rotor are maintained in the proper position in the space formed by the first and second casing members.

In addition, since the seating faces having irregular surfaces are provided at the edges of the first and third casing members, the seating faces are exactly brought into contact with each other. A gasket or an O-ring may be mounted on the irregular surface to provide more reliable airtightness (specification, page 18, line 27 to page 19, line 2).

With respect to the prior art, Takagi et al. discloses a motor, comprising a casing (2) composed of a metallic cylinder (3), a resin mold (4), and a metallic cover (5) (column 3, lines 40-49), and a conductive rod (35) for the current flow.

However, firstly, Takagi does not disclose or suggest any motor casing which is composed of first, second, and third casing members, wherein all of the casing members

are made of metals, and the first and third casing members form an outer shell inside which the second casing member is disposed.

That is, Takagi's cylinder (3) and cover (5) are made of metals but the resin mold (4) is not a metal. There is no description in Takagi's disclosure that the motor casing is all made of a metal. Also, the cylinder (3) is not disposed inside the outer shell formed by the mold resin (4) and cover (5). Instead, the cylinder forms the outer shell together with the curable resin and the cover.

Secondly, Takagi does not disclose or suggest any turn stop member which is provided between the first and second casing members to prevent the displacement therebetween.

The Action states that the conductor rod (35) is equivalence to the detent (turn stop member) to inherently prevent the displacement between the first and second casing members.

However, in Takagi, the mold resin (4), the cylinder (3), and the stator (10) are fixed to each other by a resin (column 3, lines 44-49), and the conductor rods (35) are inserted into a pair of grooves (34) provided in the cylinder (column 4, lines 13-17) to serve as the primary terminals for current flow. That is, Takagi's mold resin and the cylinder are fixed to each other by molding and, therefore, do not require the turn stop member to prevent the displacement therebetween.

Thirdly, Takagi does not discloses or suggest any seating faces having irregular surfaces provided at the edges of the first and third casing members such that the

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irregular surfaces are brought into contact with and secured to each other.

In Takagi, a bolt (screw member) (52) is inserted and tightened into a tapered hole (33) formed in a rib (31) of the cylinder and a flange of the cover to connect and fix the cover (5) to the cylinder (3) (column 4, lines 5-12). In takagi, there is neither description nor suggestion that the seating faces of the cover and the cylinder have irregular surfaces.

In these reasons it is submitted that applicant's invention recited in claims 21-17 is patentable over Takagi et al.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered, claims 21-27 allowed, and this case passed to issue.
Respectfully submitted,


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